GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:215
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
MOBILE TELEPHONE BILL PAYMENT SCHEME
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the areas of different metropolitan cities alongwith Delhi where mobile telephone bills payment scheme has been initiated as on date;

(b) whether the Government propose to start the above mentioned scheme in some other areas of the metropolitan cities alongwith Delhi;

(c) if so, the names of such areas; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRIMATI SU MAHAJAN)

(a) As on date the Mobile van service scheme for collection of telephone bills is available in Delhi, but not in the other 3 metropolitan cities.

(b) to (d): The Government no longer provides telephone services. It is the public sector undertakings Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), which provide telephone services. The facilities for collection of telephone bills are various and include collections through nationalized banks, a large network of post offices, customer service centers, cash counters, departmental telegraph offices / central telegraph offices, the Voluntary Deposit Scheme and the Electronics Clearing Scheme etc.

The mobile van scheme had been introduced earlier in both Kolkata and Chennai but was withdrawn in recent years due to an inadequate response from the public and considerations about the security of cash.